

Transcript of recorded interview by
Los Angeles County Sheriff's
Detectives Comstock and Davis
with Alfred Coward
(November 9, 2005)

SER 282 - 322

1 TAPE RECORDED INTERVIEW OF ALFRED COWARD CONDUCTED
2 BY DETECTIVES COMSTOCK AND DAVIS OF THE LOS ANGELES
3 COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, HOMICIDE BUREAU, AT
4 JOYCEVILLE INSTITUTE, CANADA.

5
6 CASE NAME: Peo. vs. Stanley Williams
7 CHARGE: PC187(a)
8 C.D. DATE: November 9, 2005
9 C.D. I.D.: "Alfred Coward/Tony Sims"
DEPUTY D.A.: John Monaghan
D.A. UNIT: Major Crimes

10
11
12 LEGEND:

13 D - Det. Steve Davis
14 C - Det. Cheryl Comstock
15 A - Alfred Coward
16 U - Unidentified
17 *** Unintelligible
18
19
20
21

22 TRANSCRIPT PROVIDED BY

23 Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

24 November 2005
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28 sam/05-70

1 D Okay. Today's date, November 9th, 2005. Uh,
2 Investigator Steve Davis and Investigator Cheryl Comstock. We're in
3 the, uh, City of -- what is this?
4 C We're --
5 D Kingston?
6 C No, we're in Joycefield Institute just outside of Kingston.
7 D Okay. Joycefield Institute in Canada. This is going to be an
8 interview with Alfred Coward.
9 C Alfred Coward. ***.
10 D Sir, could you have a seat right here, please?
11 A Sure.
12 U I have to escort him back down. So, I'll just get you. So, let
13 you know when, uh, you guys are done.
14 C Okay.
15 D Okay.
16 U Great.
17 C Thank you.
18 D Thanks.
19 C Hi, Mr. Coward. I'm --
20 A Hi.
21 C -- Detective Cheryl Comstock.
22 A How are you doing?
23 C This is Detective Steve Davis.
24 D Steve Davis.
25 A How are you doing?
26 D How are you? Nice to meet you.
27 C We're both from, uh, California, from Los Angeles County
28 Sheriff's Department.

1 A Okay.

2 C Uh, Homicide investigators from there. You're not in trouble

3 for anything.

4 A Oh, okay.

5 C Uhm, it looks like we got you out of work or something.

6 A Yeah, I did. I worked in the pilot.

7 C And, what's the pilot?

8 A It's, uhm, -- it makes stuff for the government -- lockers and

9 ***.

10 C Oh, okay.

11 A Gun cabinets -- different stuff.

12 C Okay. Uhm, the reason we're here, Mr. Coward, is we

13 wanted to talk to you about an old friend of yours -- or not -- maybe not

14 friend, but, an old acquaintance of yours, uh, Stanley Tookie Williams.

15 A Mmnh-mmnh.

16 C And, uhm, we were asked by the, uh, D.A. to come and just

17 chat with you on that matter. That's a case in 1979, the 7-Eleven --

18 A Yeah.

19 C -- incident. Uhm, but, before we get into that, has anybody

20 from, uh, Mr. Williams' defense team been to see you?

21 A Not lately.

22 C When you say "not lately" when was the last time?

23 A When I was living in California, this lady used to come and

24 see me. I don't remember her name. She was a Black lady.

25 C Uh-huh.

26 A She said she wasn't really in -- she was, uh -- I think she was

27 an investigator for Appeal or something.

28 C Okay.

1 A I'm not sure.

2 C And, how long ago was that, Mr. Coward, when you were in
3 California?

4 A The last time I saw her was like '94, '95, something like that.

5 C Okay.

6 D And, why did she come to see you?

7 A She just was asking me questions.

8 D Okay. Like what?

9 A Uhm, did I see the shooting?

10 D Mmnh-mmnh.

11 A And, stuff like that.

12 C Did she -- did she want you to change your original
13 testimony?

14 A Yeah. Yeah.

15 C What is it that she wanted you to do?

16 A I don't even remember. It's been so long.

17 C Yeah. Uh, but, you -- you remembered that she --

18 A It was long ago.

19 C -- she did want you to change your original testimony?

20 A She said something about, uh, if -- I don't even -- she -- uh, I
21 don't even remember really the questions. She asked me a lot of
22 questions.

23 C Did she have you sign anything?

24 A I'm not sure.

25 C Did she pre- -- did she prepare any kind of affidavit or any
26 statement that she wanted you to review and sign?

27 A No, I don't think so. She was just taking notes.

28 C Taking notes?

1 A Yeah.

2 C And, uh, do you maintain -- or do you now, and, did you then
3 to her maintain -- that the -- what you testified to at the trial was, in fact,
4 the truth?

5 A Yeah.

6 C And -- and, so, what you said at the trial was the truth? And,
7 you still say that that is the truth?

8 A Yes.

9 C Okay. And, of course, that's what you testified under oath, at
10 the time?

11 A Yeah.

12 C And, you -- you didn't tell her that that was a lie, or anything
13 like that?

14 A No.

15 C Okay. Because it wasn't?

16 A No.

17 C Okay. You seem like you're an honest person.

18 A Mmnh.

19 C And, you don't remember this lady's name? It wasn't -- it
20 wasn't Becky, now, was it?

21 A (No audible response.)

22 C Was she a tall woman? Or --

23 A No.

24 C No?

25 A Not really tall. She came when I was in the County Jail one
26 time. And, she came to see me there. And, that was like '91 or '92.

27 C Uh-huh.

28 A And, then, she popped up at my house. Uh, this was about

- 1 three – two or three years later.
- 2 C Okay. But, no one's come to see you since you've been
3 here?
- 4 A No, not since I've been in Canada.
- 5 C Okay.
- 6 A I've been here since – in Canada, since '96.
- 7 C Has that been a good thing?
- 8 A Yeah. Better.
- 9 C Better?
- 10 A (No audible response.)
- 11 C You like it over here?
- 12 A Yeah.
- 13 C Other than the fact that you got yourself into –
- 14 A Yeah, a little problem.
- 15 C A little problem, yeah.
- 16 A Yeah.
- 17 C So, you're not gonna have any more problems when you go
18 back out?
- 19 A No. No.
- 20 C You're getting too old for problems, Mr. Coward.
- 21 A I am. Yeah, I'm too old for this.
- 22 C How old are you now?
- 23 A Fifty.
- 24 C Yeah. Yeah, you don't need no more problems. Do the – do
25 the second half of your life the right way.
- 26 A Yeah.
- 27 C Yeah, staying out of problems.
- 28 A Yes, ma'am.

1 C So, what do you remember about the liquor store incident? I
2 mean we've read reports. We -- obviously, we weren't the investigators
3 on that case. We were just asked to -- to come up and contact you, uhm,
4 because there's, uhm -- some things are happening on his -- his, uh,
5 sentencing procedure.

6 A Mmnh-mmnh.

7 C So, uhm, -- uh, I mean I've read the reports. And, Steve read
8 the reports. What -- what -- what went down that night?

9 A Okay. I was at home.

10 C Right.

11 A He came over my house -- him and some other guy. I had
12 never seen this guy before. He said he was a cousin from Texas or
13 something. I think his name was Darryl.

14 C Okay.

15 A And, uh, he owed me some money. So, --

16 C He being Stanley?

17 A Yes. So, he owed me like 50 bucks.

18 C All right.

19 A So, I told him I needed my money. And -- and, uh, he told me
20 to follow him. He -- he was gonna get it. But, I didn't know he was gonna
21 rob a store. You know what I mean?

22 C Right. Absolutely.

23 A So, uhm, they jumped on the freeway. I drove behind them.
24 And, so, I said, "Well, where are you going?" He said, "Oh, I'm going out
25 towards Pomona." So, I said, "Well, let me stop and pick somebody up."
26 That's when I stopped and picked Tony Sims. He stayed on 59th and
27 Figueroa, I think it is.

28 C Okay.

- 1 A And, uh, I picked him up. And, he was riding with me. And,
2 we're in two separate cars.
- 3 C Right.
- 4 A They were in a car. And, I'm in my car.
- 5 C So, it's --
- 6 D And, Tony's with you?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 C So, it's you and Tony --
- 9 A Tony.
- 10 C -- Sims. And, it's Stanley Tookie Williams with his cousin
11 from back East named Darryl?
- 12 A Back South.
- 13 C Back South.
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 C Okay.
- 16 A Okay. So, we go. And, this is the strangest. I never believed
17 this. We pull up. I didn't even pull up in the liquor store. Well, yeah, I
18 pulled up in the liquor store and -- to get some cigarettes.
- 19 C Right.
- 20 A Tony wanted some cigarettes. So, he went in the store. And,
21 he was taking a long time. So, I got out of the car. And, they parked.
22 They parked right say -- mmnh, I parked on the side of the store.
- 23 C Right.
- 24 A And, I think they parked maybe on the street, or maybe -- the
25 way the store was located was pretty strange. But, they parked -- I guess
26 he couldn't see the car.
- 27 C Okay.
- 28 A Okay. So, I get -- uh, after he takes a long time, I get out of

- 1 the car. And, I'm going to the door. And, uh, he's coming out. He says,
2 "There's nobody in the store, man." Like this. And, uh, that's when –
- 3 C That's Tony telling you that?
- 4 A Tony's telling me this.
- 5 C Right.
- 6 A So, he said he grabbed some cigarettes and he was coming
7 out. And, -- and, this is when Tookie – I guess he heard the
8 conversation, because he had came around the corner. And, as he
9 comes around the corner, the guy – I guess he was working there – he
10 comes around the other corner back by the dumpster in the back.
- 11 C Okay.
- 12 A So, towards probably the – facing this way, the right-hand
13 side of the store. It's a dumpster. I guess he was sweeping back there.
14 He had a broom and a one of them dustpans with a stick on it.
- 15 C Right.
- 16 A And, uh, so, by then, Tony – Tony's talking to Tookie. And,
17 the guy comes around the corner and he shoves the guy in the store.
18 And, --
- 19 C Who shoved the guy in the store?
- 20 A Tookie.
- 21 C And – and, the guy being the – the, uh, clerk that was out
22 cleaning up the place?
- 23 A Yeah, the clerk. Yeah.
- 24 C So, Tony shoves him in the –
- 25 A No.
- 26 C Or Tookie shoves him in the store?
- 27 A Yeah, he shoves him in the store. And –
- 28 C Okay.

- 1 A -- we go back in -- halfway in the store. And, he pushes him
2 in the back room and shoots him.
- 3 C Now, how do you --
- 4 D Who -- who did that?
- 5 C How do you --
- 6 D Who did that?
- 7 A Tookie.
- 8 D Tookie did that?
- 9 C How do you know he did that?
- 10 A He was the only one back there. He's the only one that had a
11 gun.
- 12 D What kind of gun did he have?
- 13 A He had a little sawed-off shotgun.
- 14 C And -- and, when he went to the back room, could you -- did
15 you see that shotgun? Was he, then, -- was he pointing it at the man?
- 16 A Okay. This is what happened. When he went in the back
17 room, I was say about right here. The door is there.
- 18 C Probably about --
- 19 A He pushes the guy.
- 20 C -- six feet.
- 21 A Yeah. And, so, I kind of look in. And, I tell him, "Hey, there's
22 a camera right there. What are you doing?"
- 23 C Okay.
- 24 A And, he shoots. He pulls the gun out. And, he blasts the
25 camera out. I think he shot about two or three times at the camera.
26 Then, I turned around. I started walking back out of the store. And, I
27 hear a couple more shots.
- 28 C While he was shooting the camera out, could you see what

- 1 the clerk was doing?
- 2 A I wasn't really paying attention. In fact, I think he was on the
3 ground.
- 4 C Had he been shot, at that point? Or --
- 5 A No. No, he wasn't shot, at that point.
- 6 C Okay.
- 7 A That's the first thing he did was shoot the camera. It was like
8 in the corner -- like catty-corner, or right here by the door.
- 9 C Right. Right.
- 10 A Boom. He shoots the camera out. I turn around and just
11 book out the door. And, I hear a couple more shots.
- 12 C Okay. And, then -- then, what happens?
- 13 A Uh, we leave.
- 14 C In separate cars like you came?
- 15 A Yeah.
- 16 C And, then, when do you -- then, when do you, then, next talk
17 to Tookie?
- 18 A We were at a gas station. Uh, we didn't really talk at the gas
19 station. We got some gas. And, uh, we hopped back on the freeway.
20 And, we got off at, uh -- where Tony Sims lives. I was dropping him back
21 off.
- 22 C Right.
- 23 A And, him and Tony started arguing about the money.
- 24 C Tookie and Tony started arguing?
- 25 A Yes.
- 26 C Okay.
- 27 A And, uh, --
- 28 C And, that's the money from the robbery of the 7-Eleven?

- 1 A Yeah.
- 2 C Okay.
- 3 D Who had the money?
- 4 A Uh, Tony had the money, because when we – all right.
- 5 That's what I say. When we went in – when I came in, Tony had already
- 6 had the money –
- 7 C Okay.
- 8 A -- before we – before Tookie even came in the store.
- 9 C Okay.
- 10 A And, – or that's what I don't understand why he shot the guy.
- 11 Like – I mean it was a robbery. But, the robbery – I guess you'd call it a
- 12 robbery. But, the robbery was over.
- 13 C Right. Because Tony already had the money.
- 14 D And, the guy didn't try to do anything to prevent them?
- 15 A No, he didn't even know what was going on.
- 16 D And, he – right.
- 17 A He just – you know, like he saw us. And, oh, I got, you know,
- 18 customers.
- 19 C I got customers. Absolutely.
- 20 A And, he goes in the – you know, and, he just pushes him
- 21 down and boom. I – I didn't understand ***.
- 22 C Did Tookie ever tell you, later, why he killed that clerk?
- 23 A No.
- 24 C Did anybody ever tell you statements that Tookie made about
- 25 why he killed the clerk?
- 26 A Mmnh, I think he said something about he didn't want to
- 27 leave any witnesses or something.
- 28 D Tookie?

1 A But, I'm not sure.

2 D Tookie did?

3 A Yeah. But, I'm not positive. But, I think -- I kind of remember
4 something about witnesses or something like that.

5 C Right. Right.

6 A ***. But, what can you witness if you don't see anything?

7 C That's true.

8 A And, like I say, Tony already had the money. He was coming
9 out of the store. The guy was coming -- he wasn't even in the store --

10 C Right.

11 A -- when this happened. We went in when he -- Tony went in
12 the store. When I came to the door and was entering the store, there
13 was nobody in the store, period.

14 C Right.

15 A The guy was outside. He's -- and, then, he directly came
16 around this corner. Tookie and them came around this corner. And, the
17 guy came to the door. I think Tony came -- Tookie came to the door first.
18 And, he was kind of standing there. And, he was talking to Tookie. And,
19 there was nobody even in there. And, he said, "Oh, who is this guy
20 here?" And, that's when he shoves him in the door. And, we walk like
21 maybe twice the length of this room to the back door --

22 C Right.

23 A -- to another little back room, past the counters, back to the
24 door. And, uh, this is where I say, "There's a camera in here, man."

25 C Now, the -- the clerk that Tookie was forcing into the back
26 room, what was his size versus Tookie's physical size?

27 A Oh, he was just a kid.

28 C He was just a kid?

- 1 A Yeah.
- 2 C And, was Tookie pretty big, at that point?
- 3 A He was – yeah, he always been kind of –
- 4 C Muscular and –
- 5 A Yeah, he lifts weights a lot. And, like a gym rat, you know.
- 6 C Yeah. Right. Right.
- 7 A And, uh, yeah. He was twice the size of any normal person.
- 8 You know what I mean?
- 9 C So, he was about twice the size of that kid he murdered?
- 10 A Maybe three times. The kid was like probably a little tall.
- 11 Maybe six foot, maybe. But, I'd say no more than 175 pounds.
- 12 C Mmnh.
- 13 A No more. You know, he probably might have been less. I
- 14 don't really –
- 15 C Right.
- 16 A – remember that much.
- 17 C So, what you just told us is, basically, the same as you had
- 18 testified to at the trial, right?
- 19 A Yeah.
- 20 C And, you –
- 21 A Well, they asked me a lot more questions –
- 22 C Right.
- 23 A – at the trial.
- 24 C I'm sure they went into a lot more depth. And, that's all on
- 25 court record. It's just that –
- 26 A Yeah.
- 27 C *** Steve and I have read the reports. But, there's nothing
- 28 like hearing it from the "horse's mouth" you know.

- 1 A Mmnh-mmnh.
- 2 C I mean you – you were there. And, you're the best source.
- 3 Uhm, you were never involved in the other, uh, case that Tookie Williams
- 4 was involved in?
- 5 A I never saw him no more after that night.
- 6 C That was it?
- 7 A Yeah.
- 8 C You didn't want anything to do with him?
- 9 A No. Plus, he never paid me.
- 10 C He never paid you? Oh, okay.
- 11 A Never. Yes.
- 12 C That's a good reason. How about Mr. Sims? Do you know if
- 13 he ever saw Tookie after that night?
- 14 A No, he – he – he had – they weren't really – the only reason
- 15 why Tony was there is because I went and picked him up. He didn't –
- 16 they really didn't get along. They – they were never friends.
- 17 C What more do you know about this Darryl guy?
- 18 A Nothing. When he – when he came over my house, he said
- 19 this was a guy that – I think he said it was his cousin from Texas. He
- 20 was visiting or whatever. And, nothing.
- 21 D Just Darryl? That's all he called him?
- 22 A Yeah, just Darryl. A light-skinned guy. Maybe – a little tall.
- 23 Maybe 6-2.
- 24 D Well, what did he do in all this ***? Do you know? What was
- 25 he doing?
- 26 A No, I never even seen him. He probably stayed in the car.
- 27 C So, you don't remember seeing him inside 7-Eleven?
- 28 A No.

1 C Okay.

2 A I don't remember. He might have been there. But, I don't
3 remember.

4 C But, he definitely was not part of the murder?

5 A No. No, Tookie did that all by hisself (sic), and, which was
6 not even necessary to do.

7 C Right.

8 A But, he did it, so.

9 C Do you know if Tookie ever bragged about doing other
10 murders?

11 A (No audible response.)

12 C Did he ever brag to you about any other murders?

13 A No. No. Like since that time, I never – well, he never did
14 any, I don't think. I had known him since like – we were in the 11th
15 Grade, 10th Grade, or something.

16 C Right.

17 A He never was really, uh, a violent person. Not even a – you
18 know, like we were in a gang.

19 C Yeah, you guys were in the Crips, right?

20 A Well, we never would fight or nothing, you know. And, I just –
21 you know, I guess guns make people a little bit more.

22 C Was that the first time you'd ever seen him with a gun?

23 A No, I seen him with a gun a few times.

24 C That gun?

25 A The same one, yeah.

26 C The same – the sawed-off shotgun?

27 A Yeah.

28 C The same one?

- 1 A Yeah.
- 2 C How many times do you think you saw him with it?
- 3 A Uh, mmnh, more than I could count.
- 4 C Did he have a special grip on it? Was it one of those custom
- 5 pistol grips?
- 6 A He had like -- no. It was a regular 18-inch. They sell them at
- 7 Western Surplus.
- 8 C Uh-huh.
- 9 A And, uh, like they -- he could get them on sale for \$99 or
- 10 whatever. Okay. He was running a boy's home and one of the kids stole
- 11 his gun. And, so, he went and bought another one when he got paid.
- 12 And, uh, what happened was, some type -- some type of way, he broke
- 13 the handle.
- 14 C Okay.
- 15 A So, he taped it up.
- 16 C Oh, I see.
- 17 A But, it wasn't really a pistol grip.
- 18 C Right.
- 19 A It was -- it was a regular with the stock. And, it broke. And, --
- 20 or somebody showed him how to do that. I don't know. But, he -- it was
- 21 just tape. It wasn't really a pistol grip.
- 22 C So, he had a gun --
- 23 A He made it into a pistol grip.
- 24 C What kind of gun did he have prior to this one?
- 25 A He always had that shotgun.
- 26 C Well, you said that somebody stole one of his guns.
- 27 A He had -- oh, it was -- it was another shotgun.
- 28 C Another shotgun?

1 A Yeah.

2 C So, his preference of weapons was shotgun?

3 A Yeah.

4 C Did he ever say why?

5 A Well, you don't miss.

6 C You don't -- you don't miss with a shotgun. There you go.

7 That's true.

8 A Yeah.

9 C Good point. Now, let me ask you this. If somebody from the
10 defense came to you here in Canada, at --

11 A Mmnh-mmnh.

12 C -- this facility, and, asked you to change your story, and -- and
13 lie and say that what you said happened didn't happen, would you do
14 that?

15 A No.

16 C Okay.

17 A How could I change it? If he didn't do it, somebody else did
18 it. You know what I mean?

19 C Right.

20 A So, --

21 C And, there was nobody else there to do it.

22 A No.

23 C So, the bottom line is that you would not lie or perjure
24 yourself to assist Tookie Williams?

25 A No.

26 C Okay.

27 A No, I'm done with that.

28 C Sounds like you did the right thing way back when, too.

1 A Yeah. But, uh, what happened to Tony Sims? Did he ever
2 get out of jail?

3 D No, he's still in prison.

4 C Yeah, he's still in prison. I had to stop and think for a second.
5 Yeah. Yeah. But, he's got, uh, -- well, I don't know. He had the
6 possibility of being paroled.

7 D Was he pretty upset that Tookie killed this guy?

8 A Yeah. Yeah, very upset.

9 D Turned a petty theft into a murder.

10 A Into a murder, yeah. And, then, he ended up probably getting
11 25 to life. Or I don't know what he got. He -- I know I heard he had got
12 25 years.

13 C Yeah, I heard it was 25 or an L-walk.

14 D Mmnh-mmnh. It might have been. It might have been Life-
15 without. I don't know.

16 C Yeah. I think it was Life-without. But, he is -- you know, they
17 -- they are looking at maybe a parole on him. But, who knows what will
18 happen in the future. That's between him and the Parole Board, not us.

19 A Right.

20 C So -- but, yeah, that's -- that's a cold shot, you know. But,
21 obviously, uhm, Mr. Williams had a -- nothing in mind except for his own
22 interests.

23 A Right.

24 D As far as you know the only reason he ever said was
25 because of witnesses. He didn't want to leave a witness?

26 A That's all I really remember.

27 C Because, clearly, you did not see the clerk do anything to
28 provoke him?

1 A No. The guy just came to the door and, I think he asked
2 something. And, he told him to "Shut up and get in the back room."
3 That's all I heard. Because he didn't really show him the gun, at first.

4 C Right.

5 A Because he had a long coat on.

6 C I see.

7 A The gun was like – I think he had a pocket maybe in that coat
8 or something. And, uh, then, when he got in the store, he pulled it out
9 and stuck it in his back and pushed him in the back room. But, the first
10 thing I saw in the back room is the camera there. "Man, what are you
11 doing?"

12 C Right.

13 A But, then, that's when he started shooting the camera out.
14 Shoo. He left.

15 C Do you remember how much money, uh –

16 A Sixty bucks.

17 C Oh, \$60?

18 A Sixty-nine bucks.

19 C Sixty-nine dollars.

20 A Sixty-seven, sixty-nine bucks, something like that. I didn't get
21 any of it. So, you know, there wasn't enough. There was four of us, you
22 know.

23 C Yeah. Wow. Steve, anything else?

24 D No, I can't think of anything. All right, sir. Thank you very
25 much. Do you think you'll be getting out soon?

26 A Uh, yeah, I got a parole hearing Tuesday. So, if I don't get
27 out Tuesday, I get out on a stat release in January.

28 D Okay. So, you're almost finished with your sentence, then,

1 huh?

2 A Yeah.

3 C You're anxious?

4 A Yeah. I'm tired of this.

5 C Well, there's worst prisons to be in, though, that's for sure.

6 A Yeah. That's true. This is, uh, a little different than the

7 States.

8 C Yeah.

9 D I guess. Yeah.

10 C Huh. This kind of reminds me of what our, uh, cushy Federal
11 ones are in the States, where all the, you know, rich people that get in
12 trouble go.

13 A Yeah.

14 C Where the politicians -- yeah.

15 A Yeah.

16 D All right.

17 C Well, do you have any questions of us, uh, Mr. Coward?

18 A Uhm, yeah. I read something in the paper, uh, a couple of
19 weeks ago.

20 C Mmnh-mmnh.

21 A I think it was, that they were trying to get a warrant for his, uh,
22 execution?

23 C That's correct. Uhm, there is a date set for, uh, Mr. Williams'
24 execution, uh, in December. And, of course, as the system works, his
25 side is, uh, doing appeals and asking for a clemency hearing, which they
26 have the right to do.

27 A Yeah.

28 C And, uhm, so, all of those procedures are being followed.

1 A Okay.

2 C And, this is just all part of the review process.

3 A Mmnh-mmnh.

4 C And, uhm, the Governor will decide, uhm, the clemency
5 hearing, or what kind of hearing he's going to have. And, then, the
6 Governor, ultimately, makes a decision on any clemency. And, uhm, in
7 the meantime, I'm sure the defense will be filing whatever other motions
8 with the court system to try and prevent the execution, because that's
9 what they're charged to do. And –

10 A Yeah.

11 C – so, that's – uhm, so, we're just here as part of the system
12 to follow up on things and –

13 A Yeah, because that lady came like maybe – I was in jail –
14 maybe twice she came down there and –

15 C Right.

16 A And, she came to my house. I don't know where she found
17 out where I lived. But, then, she came there a couple of times. I think
18 that's when he – I guess maybe he had his first appeal or –

19 C Right. I think that was around that time frame, yeah.

20 A Yeah.

21 C So, – but, uhm, so, I'm sure – depending on whatever
22 happens – it will be in the paper, whichever it goes.

23 A Okay.

24 C Yeah, because it's – it is a – uh, he's gotten a lot of notoriety
25 over the years.

26 A Mmnh-mmnh.

27 C So, that it will be something that you'll see in the papers,
28 whenever ***.

1 D What's his connection with the Crips?
2 A Who?
3 D Tookie?
4 A He was, uh, the leader of the West side.
5 D So, he was the leader?
6 A Yeah, of the West side.
7 D And, you were a member of that gang, too?
8 A Yeah.
9 C Now, is he still, uhm -- is he still a shot-caller in the prison for
10 the Crips?
11 A I don't know. A lot of people don't care for him.
12 C No?
13 A No.
14 C Well, when you were last in the California prison system, --
15 A Uh-huh.
16 C -- was the word that he was still shot-calling in prison?
17 A No.
18 C Were you in the same prison with him?
19 A No.
20 C No?
21 A I was in, uh, Mule Creek.
22 C Mule Creek.
23 A Yeah. I think he was San Quinten.
24 C Why don't people like him? What do you hear?
25 A Well, you know, I think this guy that testified on him, that gave
26 the gun to the police, Rick James --
27 D Uh-huh.
28 C Uh, yeah.

1 A -- uh, I -- somebody told me that he had sex with his son. I
2 don't know how true that is. But --

3 D Oh, his son got arrested. Right.

4 C Oh, that -- that --

5 A Rick James had a son.

6 C James' son got arrested and someone is saying that Tookie
7 Williams had sex with James' son?

8 D Right.

9 A Yeah.

10 D How can that happen if he's on Death Row, though?

11 A No, this is before he even went to jail.

12 D Oh, I see.

13 A Tookie was living with James.

14 C Oh.

15 D Oh.

16 A This is how James got -- see, Tookie got high one night. And,
17 he went in and he started talking to James about -- he said that I wouldn't
18 stay there while he killed somebody or something like that.

19 C Right.

20 A Okay. James had some cases. I don't know where he's
21 from. Arizona or whatever. So, Tookie went out to a club that night.

22 And, he didn't take his gun. James got the gun and took it down to the
23 Sheriff's station, told Lelou about his murders. And, I think this is after he
24 had killed the people in the motel -- because this had to be.

25 C Right.

26 A Because I think, uh, when he shot the guy in the liquor store,
27 it was like November or October or something. Then, he shot the people
28 in the motel. I think it was like March or February. So, there was like a

1 big gap.

2 C Right.

3 A So, uh, I think he was, basically, talking about the motel.

4 And, then, he said, "Yeah, me and Blackie. And, Bam was with me."

5 That's Tony Sims.

6 C Right.

7 A When I –

8 C You're Blackie, right?

9 A Yeah – shot this other guy. And, they got sick or something.

10 I don't know. He told them something. And, uh – I don't know. And, that

11 he – and James, I guess, he seen the opportunity to get hisself (sic) out

12 of trouble and took the gun down to the police and –

13 C Or he saw the opportunity to do the right thing.

14 D Well, why would James be in trouble?

15 A Well, he – uh, they say he had some charges somewhere

16 else. He was under the Witness Protection Program or something. I

17 don't know.

18 C Regardless, James turned in Tookie Williams for the

19 murders?

20 A Yeah.

21 C For whatever – whatever his motives were.

22 A Yeah.

23 C Is Tookie Williams gay? Bisexual? Or –

24 A Yeah. You didn't know that?

25 C No.

26 A Yeah.

27 C Straight up gay?

28 A Yeah. He's bisexual.

- 1 C Bisexual?
- 2 A Yeah.
- 3 C Was he bisexual on the – before he even hit the prison
- 4 system?
- 5 A Yeah. This is where all this happened at, because he was
- 6 looking at James' house.
- 7 C So, allegedly, he had sexual relations with James' son –
- 8 A Yeah.
- 9 C -- who was --
- 10 A And, I think James kind of heard that.
- 11 C How old would James' son have been, at the time?
- 12 A Kids? Uhm, one was probably in junior high. And, the other
- 13 one was --
- 14 D So, this wouldn't have been a consensual kind of thing?
- 15 A No. Well, I don't know.
- 16 C Yeah.
- 17 A He was just talking. And, I didn't even want to hear it.
- 18 C Right. Right.
- 19 A You know, he was telling me "Oh, this guy, his son is gay.
- 20 And, he said he was laying on the couch with a towel and the guy pulled
- 21 the towel up." And, I didn't want to hear it.
- 22 C Yeah.
- 23 D Who told -- who told you this?
- 24 A Tookie told me this. This was like -- you know, and, I didn't
- 25 want to hear about it. So, I -- that's all I heard of it.
- 26 D So, he -- he tells you about having --
- 27 A But, I didn't want to hear it.
- 28 D -- sex with this young --

1 A He didn't say he had sex. He just said he thinks the guy is
2 gay. He took a shower, because he was working out one day. And, it
3 was hot. It was in the summer. And, he went in and took a shower.
4 And, he just laid on the couch. He had the towel over him. And, James'
5 son, I guess, came home from school. There was nobody home. Or,
6 they were in another part of the house. And, uh, he was – pulled the
7 towel up and looking at him. And, that – "Look. Look, man. I don't want
8 to – I don't care, man. I don't want to hear about that."

9 C So, Tookie was trying to put it off on the kid as being the
10 advancer?

11 A Yeah.

12 C Yeah.

13 A Yeah. And, then, later on, I heard that this is what James
14 thought or heard that he had sex with his – one of his sons. So, I said,
15 "Well."

16 C Which may or may not be true?

17 A Yeah.

18 C Yeah. But, the – the reality of it is that Mr. Williams, at least,
19 was then bisexual?

20 A Oh, yeah, he was.

21 C And, since he's in prison, he's probably not bisexual now.

22 A Yeah.

23 C Well, that's interesting.

24 A Yeah. And, that goes back from, oh, years.

25 C Right.

26 A Yeah.

27 C And, now, you – you don't hear anything up here where you
28 are, about what's going on in the California prison system; do you?

- 1 A No. I just read that in the paper.
- 2 C Right. I mean you don't get like kites from other inmates
- 3 talking about what's happening down there?
- 4 A No.
- 5 C No?
- 6 A No. Why? What's going on?
- 7 C Nothing. I just -- I mean as far as whether he's still connected
- 8 to the --
- 9 A Oh.
- 10 C -- the gang life and still a shot-caller or anything.
- 11 A Oh.
- 12 C ***
- 13 A He tried to be. But, it's like a lot of people don't like him.
- 14 C Right.
- 15 A You know, they just -- because he is -- I heard there was
- 16 another incident where he supposed to have raped, uh, a member of a --
- 17 the crew. And, since then, he was like kind of black-balled, you know.
- 18 He moved on the East side. He stayed over there with this guy named
- 19 Jackie.
- 20 C Mmnh-mmnh.
- 21 A I don't know his name -- the last name. But, uh, -- and, that
- 22 was his -- his, uh -- that's -- you know, that was his life over there. But, he
- 23 never really came back on our side of town.
- 24 D How did he get to be, uh, the leader of the West -- West side?
- 25 A I don't know. I don't know. Uh, he just -- I guess they voted
- 26 him in.
- 27 D That's what happened?
- 28 A I guess Raymond appointed him, I think.

- 1 D Who?
- 2 A Raymond Washington. He's dead.
- 3 D Raymond Washington appointed him?
- 4 A The one who started the Crips. Yeah.
- 5 C So, Raymond Washington is the true original founder of the
- 6 Crips?
- 7 A Right.
- 8 C And, then, was Tookie like, then, the next rung down?
- 9 A He was – uh, just our side of town. That's all.
- 10 C Okay. And, he from the West side?
- 11 A Yeah. And, they had other guys. One guy is dead. And,
- 12 Mack Thomas. He lives in Compton. And, this other guy named Little
- 13 James. He was like a – in, uh – on the East side, but, over there by
- 14 Locke High School.
- 15 C Mmnh-mmnh.
- 16 A Yeah. But, I don't know. I know Mack is dead. I don't know
- 17 what happened to James.
- 18 C So, the true original founder of the Crips, then, is this, uh –
- 19 A Raymond Washington.
- 20 C -- Raymond Washington?
- 21 A Yeah.
- 22 C And, was, then, Tookie partly responsible for the formation of
- 23 the founding of the West side, uh –
- 24 A Yeah.
- 25 C -- Crips?
- 26 A That's all.
- 27 C Okay. Which turned in – has turned into a massive group of
- 28 gang members.

1 A Yeah. Probably, yeah.

2 C Yeah. Absolutely. Mmnh-mmnh.

3 A I thought they had toned it down, huh. You know, you see
4 stuff on t.v.

5 C You know, well, it – it goes in cycles.

6 D I think they've got a set on every corner now, pretty much.
7 Each street has got their own little –

8 A Yeah.

9 D -- ***.

10 A That's what happened when Raymond got killed, because
11 they really were not believing him.

12 C Mmnh-mmnh.

13 A And, Tookie was, uh, on drugs. So, they didn't really – so,
14 they just choose their own leader. And, they kind of black-balled Tookie.
15 You know what I mean?

16 C Yeah.

17 A But, he still came around. And, he like – you know, the guys
18 were selling dope. He was taking their stuff. And, it's just wild. So, they
19 just, you know, didn't want him around, period, you know. And, so –

20 C Mmnh.

21 A It's a different life.

22 C Yeah. Anything else?

23 A No. No.

24 C Any other questions?

25 D No.

26 C All right. Well, let's say we get you – you – you'll be escorted
27 back. So –

28 A Okay. Thank you.

1 (Unintelligible background noises heard.)
2 C Uh, you need to call ***.
3 U Yeah, I can do that right now.
4 C Thank you.
5 U No problem.
6 C ***
7 U Uh, don't worry.
8 A Are you expecting someone else to come and see me?
9 C No.
10 D No. We were just curious --
11 C But, -- no, we -- we were --
12 D -- if any of his -- his investigators had come to see you.
13 A No.
14 C No?
15 D No, because, uh, we're getting down to the -- you know, the
16 final weeks before his execution. And --
17 A Mmnh-mmnh. No, not since, uh, United States. And, that
18 was '95, '94.
19 C Uh-huh. My personal opinion is that they probably have no
20 interest in you because they have determined that, first of all, you're --
21 A Thank you.
22 C -- your statements were honest. And, secondly, they can't
23 get you to change and lie.
24 A Mmnh-mmnh.
25 C So, there's really -- you're of no benefit to them.
26 A Yeah.
27 C That's the bottom line. Uh, because all the attorneys, what
28 they're looking for is someone who is going to --

1 A Well, why should they lie? I mean what would they – what
2 would they say?

3 C Well, someone that would turn around and say, "No, he didn't
4 do it. I was the one who did it." You know, or something –

5 A Ain't nobody gonna do that.

6 C No. Well, absolutely. And, the thing is, as – as we all know,
7 when you tell the truth, it comes out the same every time.

8 A Mmnh-mmnh.

9 C And, so, for yourself, long ago, back when all this was
10 happening, if you were not being truthfully, the investigators, I'm sure,
11 would have caught you in inconsistencies and realized you were lying.

12 D I'm even surprised you remember it so well now.

13 A Mmnh-mmnh. Just like it was yesterday.

14 D Obviously, yeah.

15 C And, just – just give us the truth. And, the truth comes out
16 the way – and, not to mention that it was such – I mean I can only
17 imagine.

18 A And, it was unnecessary. And, --

19 C Absolutely. You know, a horrendous thing to have – you
20 know, to have been drug (sic) into. And, leaving an impression, yeah, for
21 the rest of your life. Absolutely.

22 D Did you ever catch any flack for testifying in court?

23 A Yeah, a little bit. But, then, people kind of –

24 D Understood?

25 A Yeah. You know, they kind of understood. If you were in that
26 situation, what would you do?

27 C Well, absolutely.

28 A Would you go to prison with him?

- 1 C No. I mean --
- 2 D I mean you --
- 3 C -- when it was such a cold-blooded murder.
- 4 D -- didn't do anything.
- 5 A I didn't have nothing to do with it.
- 6 D Yeah, right. Exactly. You didn't have anything to do with it.
- 7 A So, why should I go? He wasn't even in my car. Nothing.
- 8 C Absolutely.
- 9 A You know.
- 10 C And, it was such a needless --
- 11 A At first, like the first three or four --
- 12 C -- senseless --
- 13 A -- years. And, then, it kind of just drifted away, you know.
- 14 C Well, generally, the people that made those criticisms are the
- 15 first ones to do exactly what you did, too.
- 16 A Yeah.
- 17 C Which is the right thing.
- 18 A Yeah.
- 19 C So, absolutely.
- 20 A I mean it would be different the guy was shooting at him and
- 21 he was shooting back.
- 22 C Absolutely.
- 23 A That would be different.
- 24 C Yeah, like -- like a running gun battle on the street, where ***.
- 25 A And, even if the guy tried not to give you the money. You
- 26 know, I mean that wouldn't be right either. But, -- but, still.
- 27 C Yeah.
- 28 A So, I just -- he didn't even know what was going on. He was

- 1 -- he was probably half asleep when he came in the door.
- 2 C Right. Right.
- 3 A Because it was like -- after ***.
- 4 C Uhm, so, what are you -- you're, uh, working in this shop
- 5 making what, again, now?
- 6 A Gun cabinets for the Army and lockers. Uhm, --
- 7 C So, metal work?
- 8 A Yeah, sheet metal.
- 9 C Sheet metal work. Okay. So, you've learned a trade since
- 10 you've been in here?
- 11 A Yeah.
- 12 C So, will you be able to get a job doing that on the streets?
- 13 A Hopefully.
- 14 C Okay. Well, machine shop work, that's pretty nice.
- 15 A Yeah, that's pretty --
- 16 C There's a lot of those out there.
- 17 A Yeah.
- 18 C Any school? Have you taken any schooling since you've
- 19 been here?
- 20 A Uh, I just -- just my high school. And, I did, uh -- I picked up a
- 21 few like, uh -- I'm in a portrait class, now. And, uh -- but, somebody got
- 22 stabbed. And, so, the guy hasn't been in --
- 23 C Oh.
- 24 A -- in about a couple of weeks. So, I wanted to try to get that
- 25 license before I got out. But, --
- 26 C How much longer to get the license?
- 27 A Mmnh, maybe three more classes.
- 28 C Oh.

- 1 A But, he won't be in for another two weeks.
- 2 C The instructor?
- 3 A Yeah.
- 4 C Now, he didn't get stabbed?
- 5 A No.
- 6 C It was somebody in the class?
- 7 A He's probably a guy that goes to like all these prisons that are
- 8 right in one little circle.
- 9 C Got you.
- 10 A So, he probably has to be here. He's probably scheduled to
- 11 be here from this time to that time. If something happens, then, you –
- 12 you just have to wait until he makes the circuit again.
- 13 C Right. Right.
- 14 A So, I might not be here. So, -- but, that license costs \$500 on
- 15 the street.
- 16 C Oh, really?
- 17 A Yeah. It's free here.
- 18 C Well, maybe you can ask them to keep you until you get your
- 19 license.
- 20 A No.
- 21 C Well, hey, you know, winter's coming. And, uh, it's three
- 22 meals a day. So –
- 23 A Yeah. I'm on my way out.
- 24 C You got family here in Canada?
- 25 A Yeah. My mother has, uh, a lot of brothers. And, they have a
- 26 lot of kids. So, I've got a lot of cousins.
- 27 C Yeah?
- 28 A Yeah.

1 C Are your parents still alive?

2 A No. My mother passed away in '93. And, uh, I never met my
3 father.

4 C Oh, okay.

5 D Who is it that lives -- who is it that lives down there on 100 --
6 on 102nd and Vermont?

7 A That's my sister.

8 D Okay. Does she know you're here?

9 A Yeah. My sister and my daughter lives in the front house.

10 D Is that where you were living, at the time?

11 A No. I wasn't even -- I was living in, uh --

12 D What was the address over on -- was it Vermont? There was
13 another address you used over on Vermont. It's a carpet place now.

14 A Uh, -- oh, yeah. Yeah. That's 920- -- 9206.

15 D 90- -- yeah, 92nd and Vermont.

16 A Yeah, 92nd. No, I was living with a girl there.

17 D Oh, okay.

18 A Yeah. It turned into a carpet place?

19 D Mmnh-mmnh.

20 C Yeah, it's just this little, uh --

21 D It's a bunch of little businesses in there.

22 A Yeah.

23 C Yeah.

24 D What, it used to be apartments?

25 A Yeah. Yeah. The lady, uh, passed away. And, uh, she sold
26 the building to somebody else. And, then, -- then, everybody had to
27 move.

28 D Oh.

- 1 A The new owner, they was gonna do something else with it.
- 2 D Where did you grow up at?
- 3 A On 102nd and Vermont.
- 4 D Okay. At that house there –
- 5 A Yeah.
- 6 D -- where your sister lives?
- 7 A Yeah.
- 8 D And, how about Tookie? Where did he come from? You said
- 9 you went to school together.
- 10 A Yeah, he went to Washington. But, he lived on, uh, 68th, 67th
- 11 and Western, for a while. And, then, they moved on, uh, 92nd and
- 12 Vermont. That Kite restaurant, the old Kite.
- 13 C Mmnh, no.
- 14 A No?
- 15 C That's been gone a long time. It doesn't ring a bell with me.
- 16 A Well, they closed it down. But, another guy opened it up.
- 17 C Oh, okay.
- 18 A It's right on the corner of 92nd and, uh, Vermont, on the
- 19 opposite side, across the street from, uh – catty-corner to the, uh, funeral
- 20 home. So, he lived up that street in an apartment with his mother. And,
- 21 there was a couple of sisters. He had a couple of sisters.
- 22 C Mmnh. So, are you gonna go live with family, then, when you
- 23 get out of here?
- 24 A Yeah.
- 25 C Try to ***?
- 26 A Yeah. I'll probably get my own place. And, my cousin, he
- 27 was a bachelor. But, now, he -- he just got married since ***.
- 28 C Oh.

- 1 A And, the lady has a kid.
- 2 C Now, so, you were born in Canada?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 C When did you go to the United States? Did your family move
5 over?
- 6 A I was five.
- 7 C Oh, you were five.
- 8 A Four or five.
- 9 C And, what – why did they go there? What was the reason
10 they moved to Canada? Do you remember? Did they ever tell you?
- 11 A Well, when we moved to the United States?
- 12 C Yeah.
- 13 A Uhm, my mother just got tired of the cold weather.
- 14 C Oh, okay.
- 15 A And, my grandmother. So, her and my grandmother and my
16 two aunties, moved.
- 17 C Can't say that I blame them. It's just a little bit of cold we're
18 dealing with. And, it's like "Okay."
- 19 A Yeah. Plus, my grandmother was sick. And, they said warm
20 weather would do – do her better maybe.
- 21 C And, did it?
- 22 A Yeah. She lived a long time.
- 23 C Well, good for her. What was wrong with her? What kind of
24 illness that –
- 25 A Uhm, she had diabetic. And, uh, she was a diabetic. And,
26 uhm, low sodium. It's like she couldn't have any salt and any sugar.
27 And, she – they had to give her shots all the time for Diabetes. Her feet
28 swelled up.

- 1 C But, the moving to the warmer climate helped?
- 2 A Yeah.
- 3 C Well, that's -- that's good. You know, that's helped a lot of
- 4 people that move out to the desert and that kind of stuff.
- 5 A Yeah. A lot of people go to Arizona.
- 6 C Yeah. Warm air. ***.
- 7 D Yeah, maybe she's busy.
- 8 A You guys flew all the way down here?
- 9 D Yeah.
- 10 C We flew all the way here just to see you. We flew in from Los
- 11 Angeles to Toronto yesterday. And, we drove three hours this morning.
- 12 And, now we get to drive three hours back. Uhm, --
- 13 D Where were you living before you got incarcerated?
- 14 A Ottawa. In the capitol.
- 15 D And, how far is Ottawa from here?
- 16 A Two hours.
- 17 C Is it pretty nice?
- 18 A Well, a lot of historic building.
- 19 C Yeah.
- 20 D Did you show him his picture?
- 21 C Oh, yeah.
- 22 D Check this young man out here, man.
- 23 C The style of his hair.
- 24 D Do you remember that guy?
- 25 A Yes.
- 26 C Back when you had hair, huh?
- 27 A Yeah. That was a long time ago.
- 28 C Mmnh-mmnh. That was it.

1 A ***
2 C Mmnh-mmnh.
3 (Unintelligible background noises heard.)
4 C That looks like burglar ***. That's what it looks like. ***.
5 Okay.
6 Did you get a hold of Linda yet?
7 U Well, her number is busy.
8 C Oh.
9 U All the other numbers are busy. And, I was told to stop
10 calling.
11 C Oh, okay.
12 U But, we'll, uh – I'll bother her, again.
13 C Yeah.
14 U To escort Mr. – escort.
15 C Yeah. He's – he has to go back to his – wherever he has to
16 be escorted to. Wherever *** are.
17 U Oh, hi. They're ready to come up, again. Yeah. Oh, okay.
18 Bye.
19 U I guess she's on her way in right now.
20 C Okay. Great. Thank you.
21 U Hey, no problem.
22 D That looks like a painting from – from here, doesn't it?
23 C Is it sometimes cold?
24 D Yeah.
25 C So, have you had any problems at this prison?
26 A ***
27 C Why is it all jumping ***
28 A ***

1 (Unintelligible background noises heard.)
2 A ***
3 C Is it still – it's like everyone –
4 A There's not many people here.
5 C There's only –
6 A There's guys all the time.
7 C Like 400 and something? Or –
8 A Mmnh-mmnh, 450.
9 C So, it's the same thing that have back in the States. People
10 are smuggling it in, in all areas. *** and ***
11 U Okay. You all done?
12 D You all right?
13 C Yeah.
14 D All done. Okay.
15 (Unintelligible background noises/voices heard.)
16 C I guess we'll just follow you down. Okay?
17 U Okay. Sure. ***
18 C Good luck with your, uh, parole date.
19 A Okay. Thank you.
20 (Unintelligible background noises heard.)
21 -oo0oo-
22
23
24
25
26
27
28